

A male hybrid macaque young was born to this female Assamese Macaque and the male Bonnet Macaque on 9-iii-1975. The hybrid baby was born completely covered with hair and with its eyes open. In the crown hair of the head, the shape of the ears and the length and shape of the tail it resembled the father. The colour of the body coat resembled that of the mother.

There appears to be no record of such a hybrid in the available literature (Gray, A. P., 1972; MAMMALIAN HYBRIDS Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux, Farnham Royal, Slough, England).

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Photo. 1. The Assamese Macaque (*Macaca assamensis*) mother with her six weeks old hybrid baby.

##### 5. LONGEVITY OF TWO SPECIES OF INDIAN MONGOOSES IN CAPTIVITY

The present report embodies observations on the longevity of two species of Indian mongoose in captivity at Nandankanan Biological Park, Orissa.

SMALL INDIAN MONGOOSE (*Herpestes auro-punctatus*). A full-grown adult male of this species received in the Park on 5-ii-1967 died

on 27-ix-1975, i.e. after 8 years, 7 months and 23 days in captivity. The estimated age at the time of death was about 9 years and 8 months. This was housed in a small enclosure having a cemented floor space of approximately 3.25 sq. metres and with provisions of a wooden sleeping box and a water trough. It was kept

#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

either alone or with common mongooses and maintained very good health on a mixed diet of fish, snail-flesh and banana.

CRABEATING MONGOOSE (*Herpestes urva*). An adult male of this species received in the Park on 24-i-1965 died on 11-i-1975, i.e. after 9 years, 11 months and 19 days. The estimated age at the time of death was about 12 years. It was living in an enclosure having a cemented floor space of approximately 5.25 sq. metres and was provided with a wooden sleeping box and a water trough. It was kept with two females of the same species from 1971 onwards. As already reported by Acharjyo & Misra (1972) it maintained excellent

health on a diet of fish and snails.

Prater (1971) states that the smaller species of mongooses like the Small Indian Mongoose live from seven to eight years, whilst the larger forms like the big Stripednecked Mongoose, may have a life span of 13 years and more. The life span of the genus *Herpestes* is given as 7 to 12½ years (Walker *et al.* 1964). Longevity records of these two species are not given by Crandall (1965). According to Blanford (1888-91) fruit is sometimes included in the diet of the Indian Mongoose, but this could not be supported by Crandall (*loc. cit.*).

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#### 6. SOME RIDDLES OF GAME BIRD MIGRATION IN KUTCH-2

It is almost two decades, since I wrote the first note (*J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 54:466-468; 1957). This instalment gives some further information on other migratory birds. Of the three, namely Imperial Grouse [*Pterocles ori-*

*entalis* (Linn.)], Waku Grouse [*Pterocles senegallus* (Linn.)] and duck dealt with in my first article, the position has not changed except that I have noticed a large collection of duck this year in Banni where there are vast